

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6371

BILL NUMBER: HB 1101

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 12, 2012

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Great-Grandparent Visitation Rights.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Davisson

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
X DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill allows great-grandparents to seek visitation rights with their great-grandchildren in certain circumstances. The bill makes conforming changes.

Effective Date: July 1, 2013.

Explanation of State Expenditures: This bill would grant great-grandparents the same considerations given to grandparents when seeking visitation rights. Currently, a grandparent may petition the court for visitation if (a) the child's parent is deceased, (b) the marriage of the child's parents has been dissolved in Indiana, or (c) the child was born out of wedlock. [Note: A court may not grant visitation rights to a paternal grandparent of a child who is born out of wedlock if the child's father has not established paternity.] This bill may increase the number of requests made for visitation rights; however, any increases in these requests are expected to be small.

Court Fee Revenue: If additional civil actions occur and court fees are collected, revenue to the state General Fund may increase. A civil costs fee of \$100 would be assessed when a civil case is filed, 70% of which would be deposited in the state General Fund if the case is filed in a court of record or 55% if the case is filed in a city or town court.

In addition, some or all of the judicial salaries fee (\$20), public defense administration fee (\$5), court administration fee (\$5), and the judicial insurance adjustment fee (\$1) are deposited into the state General Fund. Revenue from the pro bono services fee (\$1) is transferred by the State Auditor to the Indiana Bar Foundation for use to assist with pro bono legal services programs in Indiana. And proceeds from the automated record

keeping fee (\$5) are deposited into the state User Fee Fund.

Additional fees may be collected at the discretion of the judge and depending upon the particular type of case.

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues: *Court Fee Revenue:* If additional civil actions occur, local governments would receive revenue from the following sources. The county general fund would receive 27% of the \$100 civil costs fee that is assessed in a court of record. Cities and towns maintaining a law enforcement agency that prosecutes at least 50% of its ordinance violations in a court of record may receive 3% of court fees. If the case is filed in a city or town court, 20% of the court fee would be deposited in the county general fund and 25% would be deposited in the city or town general fund. Additional fees may be collected at the discretion of the judge, depending upon the particular type of case.

Persons filing a civil case are also be required to pay the following fees that are deposited in local funds.

The document storage fee (\$2) is deposited into the clerk record perpetuation fund.

The following fees are deposited into the general fund of the county in which the court is located:

- Document fees (\$1 per document) are charged for preparing transcripts or copies of record or certificate under seal.
- Service fee (\$10) collected from the filing party for each defendant beyond the first cited in the lawsuit.

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected: Trial courts, city and town courts.

Information Sources:

Fiscal Analyst: Bill Brumbach, 232-9559.